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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Friday, the 4th May 1962.

The House met in the Council Chambr, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P.V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Fire accident

* 33 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the pandal put up by the Mylapore Fine Arts Society, Mylapore, Madras, which is a place of public resort, was recently destroyed by fire; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have instituted any enquiry as to the cause of the fire?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) Not recently, Sir, but on 2nd September 1960.

(*b*) No, Sir.

The occurrence was enquired into at the spot by the Police on 2nd September 1960 itself and it was found to be an accident.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact, Sir, that this 'Pandal' is situated next to the Isabella Hospital?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it is situated at No. 10, Oliver Road, Mylapore. I do not know whether it is next to the hospital referred to by the hon. Member.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact, Sir, that at the time the fire broke out, there was lot of commotion in the hospital and patients undergoing treatment after operation had to be shifted to places of safety at considerable risk to their lives?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am taking the information from the hon. Member. But I have no such information with me.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, if the Hon. Minister were to find out that the 'pandal' is situated next to the hospital . . .

(The Chairman sounded the gong.)

Will the Government cancel the licence?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member should please listen. It is not a supplementary question. It is a hypothetical question.